



National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Technical Theatre Workshop Skills (SCQF level 6)

CODE F5L7 12

SUMMARY

The Unit is suitable for candidates who have an interest in or who are looking to develop practical skills related to technical aspects used in a theatre workshop setting. The Unit will provide candidates with basic knowledge in using relevant tools and skills associated with the practical elements within theatre workshops. Throughout the Unit candidates will demonstrate their knowledge of construction materials, show a degree of skill in practical tool use, create a model set from given drawings and plans and adhere to Health and Safety procedures associated with a theatre workshop.

This is a mandatory Unit within the National Certificate in Technical Theatre (SCQF level 6), but can also be taken as a free-standing Unit.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of construction materials and their suitability.
- 2 Develop practical skills and use of tools.
- 3 Interpret a given design drawing and produce a scenic element.
- 4 Design and construct a scale model set from a text extract and specify suitable materials for full scale construction.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

Administrative Information

Superclass: LE

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

UNIT Technical Theatre Workshop Skills (SCQF level 6)

CREDIT VALUE

2 credits at SCQF level 6 (12 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6*).

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

CORE SKILLS

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills in this Unit.

This Unit provides opportunities for candidate to develop aspects of the following Core Skills:

- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Problem Solving

These opportunities are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit Specification.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

UNIT Technical Theatre Workshop Skills (SCQF level 6)

Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit Specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

OUTCOME 1

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of construction materials and their suitability.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify and describe potential and appropriate uses of set construction materials.
- (b) Identify and describe potential and appropriate uses of set dressing materials.

OUTCOME 2

Develop practical skills and use of tools.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Demonstrate preparation techniques of initial materials.
- (b) Demonstrate joining methods using a range of materials.
- (c) Demonstrate the use of appropriate construction tools.
- (d) Demonstrate painting effects using a range of techniques.
- (e) Comply fully with current Health and Safety regulations.

OUTCOME 3

Interpret a given design drawing and produce a scenic element.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Create scale drawings, scenic element plans and elevations of a scenic element.
- (b) Demonstrate practical skills which lead to the completed production of a scenic element.

OUTCOME 4

Design and construct a scale model set from a text extract and specify suitable materials for full scale construction.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Prepare preliminary sketches that are appropriate in terms of style and/or period, atmosphere and setting.
- (b) Construct a model set appropriate to the selected text extract.
- (c) Prepare a finalised list of materials and sizes appropriate for full scale construction.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

UNIT Technical Theatre Workshop Skills (SCQF level 6)

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

Written and/or oral, Performance and Product evidence is required to show that all Outcomes and Performance Criteria have been achieved. This evidence will be generated from practical activities sketches and drawings carried out in supervised workshop conditions and will be gathered from the preparation and completion of the scenic element and the scale model set.

Outcome 1

Written and/or oral evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved the standard specified in the Outcome and the Performance Criteria. The evidence for Outcome 1 will be obtained under closed-book, controlled conditions. Candidates will be able to identify and describe the materials used in set construction and set dressing.

Outcome 2

Performance evidence supported by an Assessor Observation Checklist is required. Candidates are required to demonstrate practical skills in woodwork, metalwork, scenic painting skills and use of tools. This evidence will be gathered on appropriate occasions during the ongoing delivery of the Unit and under supervised conditions.

Outcome 3

Product evidence in the form of a completed scenic element is required. The candidate must investigate, design and construct a scenic element. The completed scenic element must be strong, stable, functional and to the agreed specification of the assessor. On submission of the final scenic element, the candidate will discuss the investigation and construction process with the assessor.

For Outcome 3, candidates are required to carry out **each** of the following tasks on **one** occasion:

- ◆ draw rough sketches of a scenic element
- ◆ produce a scale drawing (in three elevations) of the proposed scenic element ensuring the scale, joining methods and finishing materials are detailed
- ◆ measure, cut and join appropriate materials
- ◆ use appropriate hand and power tools through the creation of a scenic element
- ◆ assemble and construct appropriate materials together to complete a scenic element
- ◆ finish a scenic element with appropriate decoration materials and techniques

Outcome 4

Product evidence and written and/or oral evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate has designed and constructed a scale model of a scene from a theatrical text agreed by the assessor. The completed model set should be strong, stable, functional and to the agreed specifications of the assessor. On submission of the final model set, the candidate will discuss the research and construction process with the assessor.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

UNIT Technical Theatre Workshop Skills (SCQF level 6)

For Outcome 4, candidates are required to carry out **each** of the following tasks on **one** occasion:

- ◆ draw rough sketches of the model
- ◆ agree the finished set design with the assessor
- ◆ create a ground plan of the set detailing style, period, setting of the scene and positioning of set elements
- ◆ measure, cut and join appropriate materials
- ◆ use appropriate hand and power tools through the creation of a model set
- ◆ assemble and construct appropriate materials together to complete a model set
- ◆ create a list of materials detailing the sizes and materials to be used for the completion of the full scale set build

Candidates are required to keep a clean and tidy work place, adhering to health and safety requirements throughout all activities.

The Assessment Support Pack (ASP) for this Unit provides sample assessment material including assessor checklists. Centres wishing to develop their own assessments should refer to the Assessment Support Pack to ensure a comparable standard.

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT Technical Theatre Workshop Skills (SCQF level 6)

This part of the Unit Specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 80 hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the National Certificate in Technical Theatre (SCQF level 6). The Unit may also be offered as a free standing Unit, which may be studied as part of a general education, for vocational reasons or as a leisure interest.

This Unit enables the candidate to develop knowledge of practical skills and how these are applied in a theatre workshop environment. The Unit also enables the candidate to develop personal social skills such as co-operation, negotiation, compromise and team work and to increase his/her understanding of, and interest in, theatre.

The choice of text material for the purposes of this Unit must be left to the professional judgement and discretion of the assessor. In this process, due recognition should be made of both the complexity of a given scenic element and the complexity of a given scene for a model set construction. Within this Unit a scenic element could be a piece of set or larger prop such as a box or a chair.

Outcomes 2–4 should be assessed in order of delivery but taught in a project fashion, beginning with the material selection and then moving on to the design and build areas. It is recommended that candidates get as much experience as possible with the following construction and finishing materials:

- ◆ timber, sheet MDF, sheet ply, hardboard, canvas, steel, gauze
- ◆ paint, wire, sheet metal, art roc, plastic, papier maché, leather, fabric

During the build process the candidate should get skilled tuition and practice in the use of hand and power tools. The following tools are examples of what the candidate should be using to complete the given task. However, this should be left to the discretion of the delivering centre and appropriateness for the project:

- ◆ screwdriver, craft knife, saws, hammers, mallet, chisels, staple gun, measuring tape, squares
- mitre saw, power drill, jig saw, circular saw

During the scenic element build it is expected that the candidate will use at least four (and should be encouraged to investigate all) of the following joining methods:

- ◆ nails, screws, bolts, welding, glues, PVA, Copydex, epoxy resin, solvent glues

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Technical Theatre Workshop Skills (SCQF level 6)

For Outcome 4 the director of a production/assessor should identify a scene for the candidate to design and construct as a scaled model set. The following should be encouraged during the teaching of this Outcome:

- ◆ candidates should develop a range of communication/social skills, eg listening and responding constructively to others, expressing ideas, questioning
- ◆ candidates should undertake the role and responsibilities of the set designer within a small production team and this could be integrated with the delivery and assessment of the Unit *Technical Theatre Production Operations* (SCQF level 6)
- ◆ candidates should create sketches, designs and a model of an approved, original set design

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

The Outcomes within this Unit should be delivered in sequence to enable the candidate to use the knowledge and understanding required for Outcome 3 and then Outcome 4. Practical exercises should be given in the use of tools, construction methods, joining methods and design techniques. Once the assessor is confident the candidate has gained satisfactory practical skills they should encourage the candidate to engage in the design and construction of a specified scenic element.

For Outcome 4 the same approach should be adhered to. Model construction skills should be taught prior to the candidate undertaking the tasks set out in Outcome 4. This Unit has been designed to give the candidate as much practical skill practice as notional time allows.

Throughout the delivery of the Unit, the following health and safety aspects must be considered and adhered to:

- ◆ noise
- ◆ alcohol
- ◆ hazardous substances
- ◆ pyrotechnics
- ◆ electrical
- ◆ mechanical
- ◆ lifting and carrying
- ◆ tool use

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

In this Unit candidates are required to design and construct scenic elements from a given text and a model set. This presents opportunities for developing aspects of the Core Skill *Problem Solving*.

Candidates will be producing written and/or oral evidence for Outcomes 1 and 4 as part of the assessment, which offers ideal opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill *Communication*.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Technical Theatre Workshop Skills (SCQF level 6)

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

A suitable instrument of assessment for Outcome 1 could be a series of short answer questions.

The suggested instrument of assessment for each of Outcomes 2, 3 and 4 is a practical assignment.

Time should be allowed for any necessary reassessment.

Opportunities for the use of e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by information and communications technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

DISABLED CANDIDATES AND/OR THOSE WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements